

2. (Amended) The rotary drum according to claim 1, wherein said drum base and said lower drum are welded with a laser beam.

3. (Amended) The rotary drum according to claim 1, wherein said drum base and said lower drum are through-welded by a laser beam directed towards a lower side of said drum base.

4. (Amended) The rotary drum according to claim 1, wherein said drum base is provided with regions of reduced thickness for laser beam welding.

5. (Amended) The rotary drum according to claim 1, wherein said abutting area of said drum base and said lower drum are welded by laser beam applied radially at predetermined circumferential locations.

Add the following:

--7. The rotary drum according to claim 3, wherein said laser beam is applied orthogonally to said lower side of said drum base.

8. The rotary drum according to claim 3, wherein said laser beam is applied orthogonally to said abutting area of said drum base and said lower drum from said lower side of said drum base.--

In the Abstract:

Page 8, delete in total and replace with new Abstract provided herewith on a separate sheet.